

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listings of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for managing multiple instances of an application executing in a plurality of computers connected by a network, the method comprising:

creating a new object for use by a new instance of the application, using an existing object ~~of~~ used by an existing instance of the application, said existing instance being one of the multiple instances of the application;

setting up connectivity between the new instance and the network; and

starting execution of the new instance of the application;

wherein the new instance of the application uses the new object, and the connectivity to access a resource shared by the multiple instances of the application; and wherein each instance of the application comprises a plurality of processes.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating comprises:

making a copy of said existing object; and

renaming the copy using name of the new instance of the application.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating comprises:

automatically choosing a name for the new instance of the application.

Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said setting up connectivity comprises:

adding an entry for the new instance to a file in a computer to describe the new instance.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 4, wherein said computer is hereinafter "first computer" and wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in a second computer, and said act of setting up connectivity further comprising:

said first computer communicating with said second computer.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 4, wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in said computer.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in a first computer, the method further comprising:

displaying a list of computers in said plurality; and
receiving from a user a selection of a second computer in said list.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of Claim 7 wherein:
each computer in said list does not have an any instance of said application.

Claim 9 (original): The method of Claim 7 wherein:
at least one computer in said list already has at least one instance of said application.

Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 7 further comprising:
installing software for said application on said second computer if said second computer does not have said software.

Claim 11 (original): The method of Claim 7 further comprising:
setting up resources for said new instance in said second computer.

Claim 12 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said act of setting up connectivity comprises:

adding an entry for the new instance to a file shared across all computers.

Claim 13 (original): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

adding an entry for the new instance to a private file in each computer.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein said act of creating new object comprises:

creating an entry for the new instance in a map file shared across all computers;
wherein the map file identifies which instances are executing on which computers.

Claims 15-22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (currently amended): A computer system comprising a plurality of computers and a shared resource, the computer system comprising:

means for creating a new object for a new instance of the application using an existing object of an existing instance of the application;

means for setting up connectivity between the new instance of the application and a network connected to the plurality of computers; and

means for starting execution of the new instance of the application, such that the new instance uses the new object and the connectivity to access the shared resource.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The computer system of Claim 23 wherein said means for creating comprises:

means for copying said existing object; and

means for renaming the copy using a name of the new instance of the application.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The computer system of Claim 23 further comprising:

means for shutting down an instance (hereinafter “killed instance”) of the application;

means for deleting connectivity between the killed instance and the network; and

means for deleting an object of the killed instance.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
making the new instance of the application more powerful or less powerful than the existing instance of the application.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein:
said resource comprises static configuration, the static configuration including information that remains in existence even after power is turned off to a computer having one of the instances.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
setting up at least one additional resource needed to bootstrap the new instance of the application.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of Claim 14 wherein:
the shared map identifies a mapping between said instances of the application and computers in a cluster.